

Attorney Docket No.: 5440.204-US

PATENT **RECEIVED**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

OCT 20 2000

In re Application of: Kauppinen et al.

Application No.: 09/339,159

Group Art Unit: 1652

Filed: June 24, 1999

Examiner: M. Rao

For: Novel Mannanases

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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

This paper is being filed in response to the Office Action mailed September 27, 2000 that made a restriction requirement between the following groups:

Group I – claims 1-3, 9-11, 13, 14, 20-29 and 31,

Group II – claims 4-8 and 12,

Group III – claims 15-16,

Group IV – claims 17-19, and

Group V – claim 30.

Applicants were also requested to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits.

In response to these requirements, Applicants hereby elect with traverse the invention of Group I and the mannanase of SEQ ID NO:2 as the species. Applicants hereby reserve the right to file continuing applications directed to the nonelected subject matter.

The basis for traverse is that there would not be a serious burden on the examiner if restriction were not required. Each of the five designated inventions is classified in Class 435.

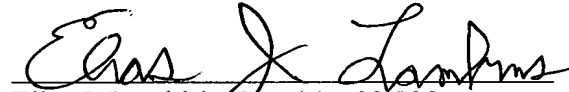
Applicants note that claim 1 links the inventions of Groups I, III, IV and V. Therefore, once claim 1 is found allowable, the claims encompassed by Groups III, IV and V

must be examined with Group I.

The Examiner is hereby invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if there are any questions concerning this response or application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: October 12, 2000

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Elias J. Lambiris".

Elias J. Lambiris, Reg. No. 33,728
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR 1.8(a)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

I hereby certify that the attached correspondence comprising:

1. Response to Restriction Requirement

is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Asst. Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

on October 12, 2000.

Carol McFarlane
(name of person mailing paper)

Carol McFarlane
(signature of person mailing paper)